

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SAN FRANCISCO



September 2004

NEWSLETTER

Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday, September 16, 2004** at 7:30 PM
Recreation Room, San Francisco County Fair Building, 9th Avenue at Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park, San
Francisco

September Program

Bromeliads of the Brazilian Amazon

This month **Bruce Holst** is visiting us from Sarasota, Florida where he is Interim Director of Research & Conservation Department at the Selby Botanical Gardens. He will be show slides of a trip he took to Brazil earlier this year. Bruce's trip was almost cancelled because of Hurricane Ivan, but the latest word is that he is coming.

Bruce Holst has studied and collected plants of the American tropics for 25 years. He specializes on the floras of Belize and Venezuela and conducts research on the Bromeliaceae and neotropical Myrtaceae families. He recently completed 4-year tenure as editor of the research journal, *Selbyana*, and is currently co-editor with his wife of the *Journal of the Bromeliad Society*. He is also a senior editor and writer for the *Flora of the Venezuelan Guayana*, a 20-year long project to publish nine volumes treating the 10,000 plant species in Venezuela's Lost World region. He has led or participated in more than 20 international expeditions, most recently to Costa Rica and Brazil. He has participated in Conservation

International's Rapid Assessment Program of critical tropical habitats, served in the Peace Corps in Honduras, and is currently collaborating on international floristic and checklist projects in Mexico, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Central America, Venezuela, and Brazil, and is preparing guides to the trees and shrubs of Florida's southwest coast and the epiphyte families of Central America.

Although Bruce is not going to provide a plant table, he will bring a few special bromeliads that we probably will all covet. Do not miss this meeting! Bruce is an excellent photographer and an entertaining speaker.

September Refreshments

Marilyn Moyer and **Peder Samuelsen** signed up for refreshments this month.

October Refreshments

Stacey Michaels and **Brian Ransom** signed up for refreshments in October.

July Meeting

Chet Blackburn came down from the Sacramento area to show us digital slides of the trip he and his wife took to Venezuela last year. They probably saw much more than most visitors because they traveled by auto, bus, and plane over much of the country. Although he saw bromeliads, this was not the emphasis of the trip. Among the bromeliads were *Brochinia micrantha* (the second largest bromeliad) growing against granite rocks, *Navia igneosicola*, and *B. reducta* growing in very poor clay-like soil. Among the other plants he saw were carnivorous plants, orchids, and *Stego lepus*, the closest relative of the bromeliads. But the highlight of Chet's trip was the many diverse waterfalls distributed over the country. If he had more time on this trip, he would have visited more waterfalls. Thank you Chet for a very different view of Venezuela than we have seen in other shows.

6th Annual Summer Gardening Fair in Strybing Botanical Gardens

We had a nice beautiful sunny day in the park. Brian, Dennis, and your president enjoyed sharing our passion for Bromeliads and our club with the gardening public. As an enticement a heavenly display of blooming plants was provided by Roger, Peter and me. We sold about 30 plants: a combination of bare root Tillandsias and potted tank specimens left over from donations and the June sale. As an introduction for the public these plants were selected mostly as suitable for outdoor culture in San Francisco. And we sold five of the BSI culture manuals. The society paid Strybing \$30 for the table rental and we grossed \$91 from our sale efforts. And yes, we had a princely dinner with that sum! But more importantly we distributed society newsletters, and meeting information. Also our sales labels included our monthly meeting formation and web-address.

August Newsletter

Because your editor was attending WBC 2004 and there was no meeting in August, there also was no newsletter.



This is a photo of *Tillandsia Curly Slim* by Derek Butcher and courtesy of BSI. **Marilyn Moyer's** plant made it to the head table.

Tour to Member Gardens

It is that time of year again and we will be visiting members' gardens on the peninsula. Our tour is scheduled to start at 10:30 AM and finish after a potluck dinner at the last stop on **Sunday, 26 September**. Thanks to **Dan Arcos** for organizing the tour. We hope that there is a great turnout. Since this is a

All gardens will be open for viewing for approximately 45 minutes with a 30-40 minutes travel time between each garden. Please bring a potluck item for the final meeting garden at

Marilyn Moyer and Peder Samuelsen's house. Honey-baked ham and barbequed meat will be provided. **Please RSVP with item to be brought and number of people attending directly to Marilyn Moyer** at (650) 365-5560 or MarilynMoyer@comcast.net. (We are predicting approximately 20-25 people).

Our first stop is at Leena Dugger's home. Although you will be coming from different parts of the bay area, these directions start on **CA 92 – EAST** from US-101 going towards Hayward. Adjust your driving directions accordingly.

1.	Take the MARINERS ISLAND BLVD/EDGEWATER BLVD exit - go 0.3 mi
2.	Turn L on EDGEWATER BLVD - go 0.9 mi
3.	Make a U-turn at BEACH PARK BLVD onto EDGEWATER BLVD - go 0.1 mi
4.	Turn R on RAM LN - go < 0.1 mi
5.	Turn R on URSA LN - go 0.1 mi
6.	Arrive at 883 URSA LN (last unit on the left), FOSTER CITY

First Stop, 11:00 AM to 11:45 AM.

Leena Dugger's Garden

883 Ursa Lane
Foster City, CA 94404-0850
Email: ldugger@cbtnorcal.com
Telephone: (650) 574-0706

Garden highlights: Lots of bromeliads established over several years (mostly neoregelias) in the back yard of a townhouse.

Allow 45 minutes travel to Keith's Woodside garden.

1.	Start at 883 URSA LN, FOSTER CITY - go 0.1 mi
2.	Turn L on RAM LN - go < 0.1 mi
3.	Turn R on EDGEWATER BLVD - go 0.6 mi
4.	Turn L on E HILLSDALE BLVD - go 0.8 mi
5.	Bear R to take US-101 NORTH towards

	SAN FRANCISCO - go 0.4 mi
6.	Take the CA-92 exit towards HALF MOON BAY - go 0.6 mi
7.	Take the CA-92 exit towards HALF MOON BAY - go 5.3 mi
8.	Bear L on CA-35/CA-92 WEST - go 2.0 mi
9.	Turn L on SKYLINE BLVD - go 6.1 mi
10.	Arrive at 14002 SKYLINE BLVD, REDWOOD CITY

Second Stop, 12:30 PM to 1:15 PM.

Keith Anderson's Garden

14002 Skyline Blvd
Woodside, CA 94062
Email: e2keith@comcast.net
Telephone (650) 529-1278

Garden highlights: Neoregelias, Guzmanias, and Tillandsias packed in a small greenhouse surrounded by redwood trees. Allow 45 minutes to drive to Roger Lane and Peter Wan's Garden.

1.	Start at 14002 SKYLINE BLVD - go 0.9 mi
2.	Turn L on KINGS MOUNTAIN RD - go 4.9 mi
3.	Turn L on WOODSIDE RD - go 1.5 mi
4.	Bear R to take I-280 SOUTH towards SAN JOSE - go 8.6 mi
5.	Take the EL MONTE RD/MOODY RD exit towards MTN VIEW - go 0.5 mi
6.	Continue on EL MONTE RD - go 0.2 mi
7.	Continue on S EL MONTE AVE - go 1.3 mi
8.	Turn R on HAWTHORNE AVE - go 0.2 mi
9.	Turn L on S CLARK AVE - go < 0.1 mi
10.	Turn L on HAWTHORNE CT - go < 0.1 mi
11.	Arrive at 551 HAWTHORNE CT, LOS ALTOS

Third Stop, 2:00 PM to 2:45 PM.

Roger Lane and Peter Wan

551 Hawthorne Court

Los Altos

Email: rdodger@pacbell.net

Telephone: (650) 949-4831

Garden highlights: very diverse collection of bromeliad species and hybrids in two greenhouses plus a side yard of bromeliads and a small cactus and succulent greenhouse. Allow 30 minutes travel to Marilyn Moyer's garden. Supermarkets are located in downtown Los Altos near Roger's house for those needing to pick up last minute items for the potluck.

1.	Start at 551 HAWTHORNE CT, LOS ALTOS - go < 0.1 mi
2.	Turn R on S CLARK AVE - go 0.2 mi
3.	Turn R on HAWTHORNE AVE - go 0.2 mi
4.	Turn L on S EL MONTE AVE at STOP sign - go .5 mi
5.	Turn R on FOOTHILL Expressway - go 0.2 mi
6.	Turn R on SAN ANTONIO ROAD - go 0.7 mi
7.	Turn L on EL CAMINO REAL - go < 0.1 mi
8.	Continue on EL CAMINO REAL - go 8.0 mi
9.	Turn L on ALMENDRAL AVE - go < 0.1 mi
10.	Turn R on NORA WAY - go 0.1 mi
11.	Turn L on ADAM WAY - go 0.2 mi
12.	Arrive at 43 ADAM WAY, ATHERTON

Fourth Stop, 3:15 PM to 4:15 PM.

Marilyn Moyer and Peder Samuelson

43 Adam Way

Atherton

Email: MarilynMoyer@comcast.net

Telephone: (650) 365-5560

Several greenhouses of bromeliads, orchids, cactus and succulents plus a koi pond and many diverse plants on the grounds spread over an acre.

WBC 2004

Chicago definitely turned out to be "my kind of town". WBC 2004 was a wonderful conference. We had a good representation attending from our society: **Keith Anderson, Barret and Gwen Bassick, George Bosworth, Roger Lane, Bruce McCoy, Marilyn Moyer, and Peder Samuelson**. This synopsis of the conference is based on your editor's impressions.

The conference took place at the Westin O'Hare hotel near the airport. The facilities were fine and our group took over most of the large rooms. The Chicago Society did a fine job of decorating the conference hub at the hospitality table and near the plant show and plant sales. The seminars were held at the other end of the hotel enabling us to get plenty of exercise.

The weather was awesome – not typical for Chicago in August. It was much cooler than usual and only a very few light showers and almost no humidity. Your editor had expected hot humid weather and packed accordingly.

The plant show was a pleasant surprise in many ways. Many registrants from around the country helped by providing entries in the show. And Chicago provided all the goodies needed to get your plants ready for the show – from pots to soil, top-dressing, and tweezers. **Marilyn Moyer** and **Roger Lane** each brought some plants and were rewarded by getting on to the head table. Marilyn's *Tillandsia* Curly Slim clump and Roger's *Billbergia vittata* cv. Domingos Martins clump each received very nice decorative ceramic pots that were specifically made for the conference.

California did quite well with awards at the show. The Best-in-Show horticulture and artistic awards went to exhibitors from southern California. The horticulture entry was a *Tillandsia* species coming into bloom (your editor forgets the species but it is very similar to *T. mooreana*). Jim and Jackie Johnson from the Palos Verdes area swept the artistic entries by entering four artistic arrangements and coming in 1,2,3,4. The Best-in-Show was an arrangement of red *Vriesea* spikes coming out of skyscrapers representing the Chicago skyline.

The attendees from San Francisco went on many of the tours and every one was very enjoyable. Your editor went on a tour going to 2 botanical gardens with lunch at the aquarium and a visit to the Field Museum. The quality of the botanical gardens is outstanding and many of the bromeliads cooperated by providing their flower spikes for our visit. The world-class Field museum tour included a behind-the-scenes visit to the herbarium that is the fifth largest in the United States.

I have been to the Missouri Botanical Gardens herbarium and was not given as nice a talk about the herbarium. Several bromeliad herbarium specimens were spread out on tables for our examination. The Navy Pier Dinner Cruise, Japanese Garden Tour, and the Chicago Botanic Gardens Tour all got rave reviews also.

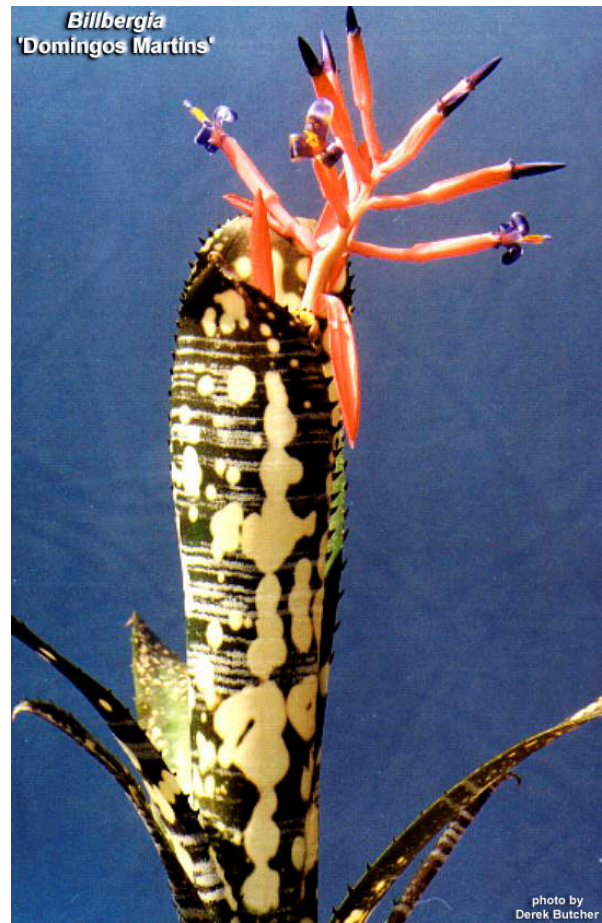
The seminars were diverse ranging from very scientific to very general with some seminars directed to bromeliad growers in the Midwest. Although some of the speakers had to leave the conference because of Hurricane Charlie, there were other speakers who were able to step in for them. Most of the seminars were presented in a large classroom environment although some were held in the smaller typical seminar rooms.

There were no new bromel books for sale at the conference. Betty Paterson is translating Volume II of Jewels of the Jungle, Bromeliaceae of Ecuador by Jose M. Manzanares. This book will be released this Fall. Harry Luther also released the latest Alphabetical List of Bromeliad Binomials. Your editor has this book if you are interested.

There were fewer vendors in the sales area than some conferences, but there were still plenty of plants to choose from. Your editor spent more than he had planned on plants.

The rare plant auction is always an exciting event for a worthy cause: The Bromeliad Identification Center at the Selby Botanical Gardens. The auction was held in the large classroom-type room and there were lots of items to choose from. The auctioneers were from Australia and San Diego. The woman from San Diego was a professional auctioneer and she is one of the co-chairpersons for the next conference to be held in Dan Diego. Steve Goode, one of the key planners for the Chicago conference spent the most on a *Neoregelia* hybrid donated by Tropiflora. Steve gets to name the hybrid.

This was a very enjoyable and successful conference. The Bromeliad Society of Greater Chicago should be congratulated for all the hard work they put in to make WBC 2004 so enjoyable.



This is *Billbergia vittata* cv. Domingos Martins. Photo is by Derek Butcher and courtesy of BSI. **Roger Lane's** specimen made it to the head table.

Bromeliad Judging School

The first of five BSI sanctioned Bromeliad Judging Schools will be held on Saturday, October 16th at Bird Rock Tropicals Nursery. If you are a hobbyist, a grower, or just want to know more about what makes prize winning plants, you should attend this school. The class will cost \$20 plus \$22.50 for the Judges Handbook. Please contact **Roger Lane** for any more information.

Welcome, New Member!

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San Francisco CA 94109
Phone: (415) 771-6643
RboyerSF@aol.com

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SAN FRANCISCO (BSSF)

The BSSF is a non-profit educational organization promoting the study and cultivation of bromeliads. The BSSF meets monthly on the 3rd Thursday at 7:30 PM in the Recreation room of the San Francisco County Fair Building, 9th Avenue at Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. Meetings feature educational lectures and displays of plants. Go to the affiliate section of the BSI webpage for information about our meetings.

The BSSF publishes a monthly newsletter that comes with the membership. Annual dues are \$12. To join the BSSF, mail your name(s), address, telephone number, and check made payable to the BSSF to:
Harold Charns, BSSF Treasurer, 255 States Street, San Francisco, CA 94114-1405.

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BROMELIAD SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

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OF
SAN FRANCISCO

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